

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe

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Electoral Change Is Being Studied

Lodge Amendment Suggests a New Method of Tallying Presidential Vote

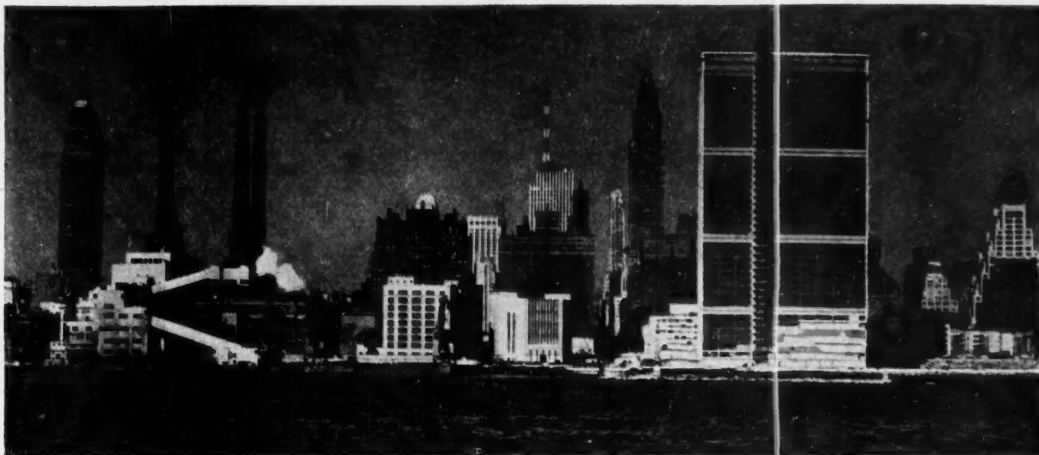
A RESOLUTION approved in the U. S. Senate a few weeks ago holds the center of the stage for high school debaters, most of whom are this year discussing Presidential election by "direct vote of the people." The Senate measure is a proposed Constitutional amendment which would make important changes in the national election system.

As we go to press, the resolution is before the House of Representatives. If it is approved by a two-thirds vote there, it will be sent to the various state legislatures. In order to become effective, it will then need to be passed—within seven years—by three fourths of these state lawmaking bodies.

The election system which exists today is strange and complicated. It has developed in a way that the country's founders did not foresee. The makers of the Constitution did not intend that the people should directly elect their Chief Executive. Instead, the idea was that the people would choose a small group of men—probably the nation's most prominent citizens—to name the President. These leaders were to be known as "electors."

Each state was given the right to choose as many electors as it had representatives and senators in the U. S. Congress. At present, for example, Nevada has 1 representative and 2 senators, so it can have 3 electors. New

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HOPE OF A WORLD that wants peace and a guarantee against the use of atomic weapons. The United Nations Secretariat building (right, foreground), now nearing completion in New York, will be the center of world activity to prevent war.

Deadlock on Atomic Control

U. S. Continues to Back Baruch Plan, While Soviet Union Sponsors Different Program. Prospect Raised by Hydrogen Bomb Gives New Urgency to Problem.

UNTIL our government is convinced that there is some better approach to the atomic control problem than has yet been suggested, we are standing pat on our past proposals for the international control of atomic energy. Our government still feels that the plan which we put before the United Nations in 1946 is worthy of adoption.

These views, recently expressed by President Truman, are the latest developments in a controversy which has gone on ever since the first atom bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. The controversy involves how the world can best protect mankind from the use of atomic energy in war and at the same time promote its use for peaceful purposes.

While everyone agrees that some form of international control is necessary, the question of how that control is to be achieved has never been settled. The main reason for this is that the United States and Russia have been unable to see eye-to-eye on the matter. In the United Nations, each of these two countries has put forth its own plan for controlling atomic power throughout the world. Since agreement of the big powers is necessary before any plan can be adopted, a stalemate has resulted.

The United Nations first attempted to work out a control plan soon after the war. The world organization set up its Atomic Energy Commission in January, 1946, and dozens of meetings

were held that year. Bernard Baruch, who was then serving as head of the American delegation to the UN atomic energy group, put forth the plan which is frequently referred to by his name. It is the plan which our government still feels is sound and wise.

Mr. Baruch proposed that an international agency be set up to control all phases of the development and use of atomic energy. The body would have the power to carry on continuous investigations of all atomic energy activities in lands throughout the world.

As soon as international control became firmly established, according to the Baruch plan, the United States and any other nations producing bombs would stop doing so and destroy existing supplies of such weapons. The UN Security Council could take immediate action against a country caught violating the rules. The veto power held by each of the five major nations in the Security Council could not be used when decisions were being made to punish a violator of the atomic control rules.

This, in brief, is the U. S. plan for the international control of atomic energy. The proposal met with the approval of most other nations. However, the Soviet Union opposed it and countered with one of its own.

Under the Russian plan, the first step would be for each nation to sign a pact outlawing atomic weapons. All existing atomic weapons would have to be destroyed before the international control plan went into effect.

The powers of the inspectors of atomic energy activities would be limited. They could make investigations of the countries involved only from time to time, not continuously. They would have no authority over the peacetime uses of the atom. Furthermore, the UN Security Council, in

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Walter E. Myer

Your Pictures of Memory

By Walter E. Myer

LET us get away from our matter-of-fact surroundings for a moment as we step into a world of fantasy. Imagine yourself walking down a long hall, on the walls of which pictures are hanging. This is not your first visit to the hall nor will it be your last. You spend much of your time in the gallery looking at the pictures which adorn the walls.

Some of the pictures are beautiful and it is a delight to see them. Others are so ugly that you shudder when your eye falls upon them. Some are amusing, others sadden you. Still others are inspiring or depressing.

Many of the pictures are so faded as to be unrecognizable. Many are growing dim, while some are as clear and bright as they were on the day they were placed upon the wall.

All your life you have been hanging them, though you seldom give much

thought to their selection. You seem to pick them up at random and put them on the wall. It is strange that you should do this, for once the pictures have been added to the collection you go back to them time after time, day after day.

Since the pictures are so carelessly selected many of them are sordid and ugly, but no matter, you will return to them time and again. If too many of them are depressing, your personality and disposition may be affected and you may be very unhappy. If the pictures for the most part are joyous or beautiful you will be a most fortunate person.

Did I say it was a world of fantasy of which I was speaking? No, it really is not. The gallery is your mind and the pictures are your memories. Each day you hang up in your mind pictures of memory. Some of them will fade with time, but others will be with you as long as you live. Your experiences of today are your memories of tomorrow. You are not done with today's ac-

tions when the sun goes down. You will look back on them through all the days and years to come.

Your situation is complicated by the fact that you do not have full control of your gallery. Other people, as well as yourself, are saying and doing things which you will always remember. They are painting pictures which will hang in your gallery. For the pictures they choose you may not be responsible, but within broad limits you may decide what your collection shall be.

What are you contributing today to your future memories? How will the things you are now doing look in retrospect? What of the pictures you are hanging today—the pictures you will be viewing through all your tomorrows? When you recall in memory your actions of today, will you be proud or ashamed, happy or depressed? Will the memory of what you do today haunt you or inspire you? These are questions to consider as you build your gallery from day to day.

Atomic Control

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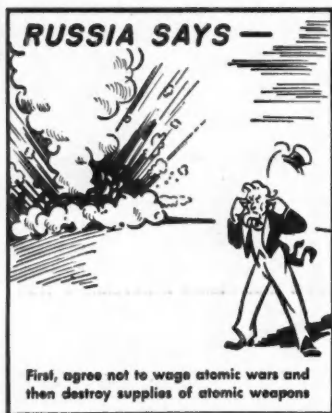
deciding disputes over atomic energy, would be bound by the veto power as it is on all other decisions. In other words, the Big Five would have to agree before the Council could call for action against a violator of the atomic control rules.

The Russian plan has the support of only a few nations. However, it has been impossible to put the U. S. plan into effect even though most countries want it. The use of the veto by the Soviet Union in the Security Council has blocked a final decision.

Let's examine the big differences in the two plans. One difference involves the question of inspection power. Our leaders think that is one of the most important phases of the control plan. They point out that the Russian proposal leaves the matter of inspection to be taken up *after* all existing bombs have been destroyed. Our leaders say this must be decided *before* the destruction of A-bomb stockpiles.

If we accepted the Russian plan and destroyed our bombs, it is argued, what guarantee do we have that the Soviet Union would later agree to a thorough plan of inspection to detect the production of atomic weapons in any country? Instead, Russia might—it is contended—through the use of the veto in the Security Council, block any inspection plans that might be favored by most countries. Furthermore, it is asked, what assurance is there that Russia would destroy the atomic bombs which she is now believed to possess?

If, continues the argument, we are willing to permit UN inspectors to check constantly on the mines, scientific laboratories, and factories here in the United States, then Russia should be willing to make a similar concession. Any nation which will not permit such investigation is bound to be regarded with suspicion, it is said, and must be considered a threat to the rest of the world.



U. S. AND RUSSIAN PLANS for regulating atomic weapons differ in important respects—as the drawings on this page show

The Russians insist that the first step is for all nations to show their good faith by pledging themselves to a treaty not to produce atomic weapons. Next, they say, all existing atomic bombs must be destroyed. Then, after these steps have been carried out, the subject of inspection should be considered.

If inspection methods are voted upon before the U. S. A. stops making bombs, the Russians argue, then the American leaders might decide not to

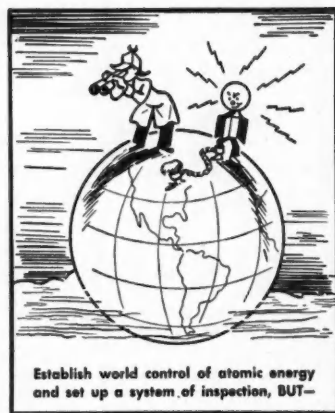


destroy their bombs after all, or at any rate might hold the weapon over the heads of other nations to force them to line up with the United States.

Another big issue dividing the Russians and the Americans on atomic energy control involves the veto power in the UN Security Council. The U. S. A. takes the stand that no control plan can have any hope of success if one of the big powers is allowed to veto action whenever it desires. If the veto is permitted, any one of the Big Five, it is said, would be able to violate the atomic control plan at will and escape punishment.

The Soviet Union, on the other hand, holds that the veto power possessed by the Big Five nations in the Security Council must not be tampered with, even on matters pertaining to atomic energy. The Russians point out that the majority of the nations throughout the world are opposed to them. They feel they must keep the veto power in order to protect themselves.

Still another difference between the U. S. and Russian plans relates to the peacetime uses of the atom. The Russians think that an international agency should not have control over atomic energy when it is being produced for peaceful purposes. They say that a nation should be allowed to develop atomic energy in the way



it wishes without outside interference so long as the product is not used for war.

The United States, however, thinks that an international agency must have the power to control all atomic-energy projects, including those for peacetime purposes. Otherwise, it is argued, a country might secretly manufacture and stockpile atom bombs in a plant which was supposedly being used in the peacetime atomic-power program. Without wide powers, it



is said, an international agency would not have effective control.

Such are the opposing views that have been put forth on world control of the atom. In the last four years, scores of meetings have been held in an attempt to iron out these differences, but both the U. S. and Russia have stuck to their original positions.

Two developments in the past six months have brought about increased demands that some sort of a control system be set up. The first development was the announcement by President Truman last September that Russia has the atom bomb. The other development was the President's announcement of a month ago that we are now working on the hydrogen bomb.

Soon after the latter announcement was made, a number of Congressmen and others proposed that we make a new approach to the problem of atomic-energy control. For example, Senator Brien McMahon of Connecticut suggested that the U. S. begin a long-range program of economic aid to countries all over the world—including Russia—in exchange for an agreement on the control of atomic energy.

Another proposal was made by Senator Millard Tydings of Maryland. He urged President Truman to call a world disarmament conference to abolish all arms down to the rifle.



Still another plan was set forth by a group of American scientists who asked that a new study be made of the nation's atomic policy.

In advocating a new approach, those who put forth these plans generally argued as follows:

"We know that Russia—as well as the U. S. A.—has the atom bomb, and very likely she is working on the hydrogen bomb, too, just as we are. Unless we stop this armament race now, we may have the most terrible war



in history. It won't do any harm—and it might do a lot of good—to make a fresh approach."

However, President Truman and other officials make it clear that they do not intend to compromise on the basic principles of the Baruch plan. At the same time, they make it plain that the U. S. A. is not closing the door to further attempts to solve the atomic control problem. They argue as follows:

"Russia respects strength. If we should give ground on the Baruch plan—which makes a thoroughly sound approach to the problem—Russia would take it as a sign of weakness. Until we are persuaded beyond doubt that there is some better approach to the problem than has yet been advanced, we are wise to continue our present policies. Our best chance for peace is to convince the Russians we are strong enough to prevent them from winning a war."

In the meantime, our atomic policy continues to be carefully studied and debated by executive officials and members of Congress.

Know Your Town

In addition to keeping informed on national and world developments, students should become acquainted with their own community problems. By making group surveys, they can find out how their towns and cities compare with those in other parts of the country. They may obtain many facts by first-hand investigation, and acquire additional information by talking with officials of the Chamber of Commerce, labor unions, and other local organizations.

As a starting point, here are some questions to which students might track down the answers:

1. What is the housing situation in your community? Is it affected by the low-cost housing bill enacted by Congress?
2. Does your town or city have adequate recreation facilities for young people?
3. Is your crime rate higher or lower than that of other similar-sized communities?
4. How many youths of school age have dropped out? Why? Is anything being done about this problem?
5. If your community has not been making proper business and industrial growth, can anything be done to improve the situation?
6. How does your traffic fatality rate compare with that of other cities similar in size?

Personalities Who Are Now Making Atomic News

Six Men Have Been in Spotlight Because of Their Activities in This Field

During the last few weeks, six men have figured prominently in the news about the hydrogen and uranium bombs, and the problems these weapons present to our nation. The men are discussed below.

Albert Einstein is one of the world's foremost scientists. Born in Germany, he was educated in his native country and in Switzerland. He has been in the United States since 1933 and became a naturalized citizen in 1940.

Early in the last war, Einstein was one of the scientists who urged the government to build the atom bomb as a weapon against our enemies. Moreover, his earlier scientific contributions provided basic information necessary for the construction of the bomb.

The name of the noted physicist again came into the news a short time ago when he said that if hydrogen bombs were used in a future war, the atmosphere above the earth may be poisoned and mankind may be doomed to extinction. Einstein urged that a third world conflict be averted by the creation of a world government to take the place of the United Nations.

Harold C. Urey is a professor of chemistry at the University of Chicago. In 1934, he received a Nobel prize for his research on the structure of the atom. During the last war, he was one of the top scientists who worked on the atom bomb.

Urey recently expressed the opinion that Russia would probably have enough atom bombs next year to be

a serious threat to the world, and that the Soviet scientists may be able to develop a hydrogen bomb as soon as we can. He, too, urged the formation of a stronger world organization than the United Nations.

Senator Brien McMahon practiced law in his native state of Connecticut and served for a time as an official of the Justice Department before he was elected to the U. S. Senate in 1944. He is chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy.

The day after President Truman announced we would build the hydrogen bomb, Senator McMahon warned that, unless the armament race between the United States and Russia was halted, there would be another war. McMahon

other nations would have to agree to genuine international control of atomic energy.

Millard Tydings, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee and U. S. Senator from Maryland, was graduated from the law school of the University of Maryland. He engaged in private practice for a while but soon entered politics.



Hoover



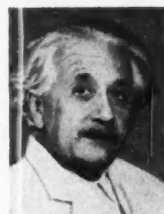
Fuchs



Tydings



McMahon



Einstein



Urey

proposed that we offer to spend 10 billion dollars a year for the next five years to help build up the economy of Russia and the rest of the world. In return for such an offer, according to McMahon, the Soviet Union and

Several days ago, Tydings proposed that we end the armament race between our country and Russia by promoting a movement for all countries to disarm "down to the rifle." Tydings said that if President Truman called a world disarmament conference, Russia would probably attend and might agree to the abolition of all weapons of mass destruction.

Klaus Fuchs, the scientist who was arrested in Great Britain recently, was born in Germany but went to England in 1933. During the last war, he was a member of a British mission that

helped the U. S. build the atom bomb.

Fuchs was imprisoned several weeks ago on charges that he gave valuable secrets about the uranium bomb and, possibly, the hydrogen bomb to Russia. He has confessed and will go on trial for espionage tomorrow in London. One reason given by him for his act was that he was sure Britain and America wanted to see Russia and Germany destroy each other.

J. Edgar Hoover, who has been director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for many years, was born in Washington, D. C. Before joining the Department of Justice, of which the FBI is a part, he practiced law.

The FBI was responsible for the arrest of Fuchs by the British authorities. According to Hoover, FBI agents learned about Fuchs' spying activities for Russia some time ago and "tipped off" Scotland Yard. The latter picked up Fuchs at his laboratory near London. The FBI is also seeking to track down other spies.

Magazine and Newspaper Digest

(The views expressed in this column are not necessarily endorsed by THE AMERICAN OBSERVER.)

"Is America Losing Its Youth?" by Gerald W. Johnson, *Nation's Business*, January 1950, page 25.

Many members of America's older generations are afraid that present-day youth lacks the spirit that made this nation great. It is charged that young people have too little enthusiasm for democracy and for American achievements. If this charge is true, the fault probably lies more with the older citizens than with the younger ones.

On every hand, people are urging our youth to preserve what America has been, and too few are urging consideration of what America might be. But in order to interest young people, it is necessary to talk not only of the past and present, but also of the future. Enthusiasm about the future is what inspired the nation's founding fathers, and it is still essential.

"Relations Between Governments," *National Municipal Review*, February 1950.

The activities of the federal and state governments determine to a large degree what the local governments can do to solve their own problems and serve their citizens. For the cities to do their jobs in the best way, it is necessary for them to know just where they stand in relation to the two higher governments.

The American Municipal Association recommends that a committee be

named to study the local governments' position and to draw up a sound program for cooperation among state, local, and federal agencies. Revenue and taxes, problems of defense, and ways of encouraging local initiative are among the questions such a committee should discuss.

Strong, efficient local governments that fit well into the over-all national picture are indispensable.

"Awakening to Rural Health," editorial comment in the *Kansas City Star*.

The nation is waking up to the fact that the biggest part of the national health problem is on the farms and in small towns. The problem arises from the lack of doctors and hospitals.

But apparently the rural communities are beginning to see that they can have medical service equal to that in the cities. They are taking specific steps to get that service.

Throughout the Middle West, small hospitals are being built—some with federal funds, others entirely with local money. Clinics are also being equipped. Young doctors are going into areas that have these facilities.

People in the farm areas are also becoming more and more interested in such "prepaid," voluntary hospitalization and medical care plans as the Blue Cross program.

The United States is a long way from having a rural health service equal to the best in the cities. But

the beginnings that have been made can, like a small flame, become a prairie fire.

"Simultaneous Discovery," *Lancelot Law Whyte, Harper's*, February 1950.

In 1823, a young Hungarian mathematician developed a new geometric theory. He wrote an article on his ideas and sent the paper to a famous German. The German was surprised and replied that he had been working on the same idea for more than 30 years. The young Hungarian was suspicious of the older man and, when a Russian published a paper on the same theory, the Hungarian was convinced that his work had been "stolen."

But he was wrong, and it was later shown that indeed a German, a Hungarian, and a Russian had developed the theory independently. Throughout history such "simultaneous discoveries" have been made. They have occurred not only in scientific fields, but in art, architecture, and religion, too.

The best known examples of simultaneous discovery are in the world of technical invention. The telescope was claimed by nine inventors, the thermometer by five. Jet propulsion of airplanes furnishes a recent example. Just before 1939, it was being developed secretly in England, Germany, and Italy.

These examples illustrate the principle that the advance of thought proceeds along parallel lines in different minds and in different countries. Then suddenly the fruits of this thought burst forth simultaneously.



HAROLD W. LAWBERT

DOES YOUTH today lack the spirit that made this nation great? (See discussion.)

The Story of the Week

Russo-Chinese Treaty

Observers are studying the terms of the 30-year treaty that was recently signed by the Soviet Union and Communist China. Some wonder whether the treaty contains a number of secret clauses granting concessions to the Russians, since the document, as it now stands, seems highly favorable to the Chinese Communist regime.

Others wonder whether Russia will actually carry out all the provisions of the treaty. It is known that she has failed to abide by many of the terms of her agreements with her satellites in eastern Europe.

According to the recently concluded agreement, Russia and Communist China pledge to come to each other's aid in the event either is attacked by Japan—the traditional enemy of both of them—or by an ally of Japan. Between now and 1953, China will acquire full control of the Manchurian cities of Dairen and Port Arthur and of an important Manchurian railroad. According to a treaty signed in 1945, Russia and Nationalist China were supposed jointly to operate the Manchurian railroad and supervise Port Arthur and to treat Dairen as a free port. Russia, however, took sole control of the railway and of both Port Arthur and Dairen.

Under two other provisions of her agreement with Communist China, Russia promises to lend her new partner in the next five years 300 million dollars. The purpose of the loan is to enable the Chinese to buy Russian industrial and railway equipment, both of which they need badly.

Russia also promises to return to her Chinese Communist ally some of the property she took from the Japanese in Manchuria in 1945. Before the last war, Manchuria was governed by Japan and most of its industries were owned by Japanese companies. Japan forcefully took this territory away from China in the early 1930's.

While certain observers are skeptical over Russia's "generosity" to Communist China, others are greatly encouraged with the provisions of the new treaty between these two countries. They think it shows that the Chinese Communists are insisting upon their right to control Manchuria



PERPETUAL THIRST for power is ever present in dictators, and is the driving force that leads them to war against other nations

What Are You Doing?

THE AMERICAN OBSERVER invites its readers to send accounts of citizenship projects in which schools and students are engaging. Reports might deal with such subjects as clean-up campaigns, forums to discuss public problems, election activities, participation in local government, unusual projects carried on by student government groups, or similar enterprises of interest and importance.

Give us full details as to how your project was started, the way in which it has been carried out, and what results it has had. We shall publish as many of these reports as possible.

and other Chinese territory on an independent basis. They point out that Mao Tse-tung, Communist leader of China, stayed in Moscow many weeks before the treaty was completed, indicating that he did not quickly "bow to every Russian request" but instead held out for Chinese rights and independence.

Only time will tell whether the Chinese Communists have the will to stave off Russian domination and, if so, whether they have the strength to do so over a long period.

"Most Important Ten"

In response to the request made in the January 23 issue of THE AMERICAN OBSERVER and its associated publication, the *Weekly News Review*, a large number of students have sent us their selections of the 10 outstanding personalities of the first half of the 20th century. The letters we received are from every section of the country. They represent the opinions of students in both urban and rural areas.

The personalities who were considered by the majority of students to have done the most "for good or evil" since 1900 are, in the order of the balloting:

(1) Franklin D. Roosevelt; (2) Adolf Hitler; (3) Thomas A. Edison; (4) Wright Brothers; (5) Albert Einstein; (6) Henry Ford; (7) Joseph Stalin; (8) Winston Churchill; (9) Mahatma Gandhi; (10) Nikolai Lenin.

The next 10 personalities in the order of the votes they received from the students are:

(11) Louis Pasteur; (12) Woodrow Wilson; (13) Pope Pius XII; (14) Chiang Kai-shek; (15) Babe Ruth; (16) Guglielmo Marconi; (17) Harry S. Truman; (18) General Douglas MacArthur; (19) Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt; (20) Pandit Nehru.

Scattered votes were cast for Madame Chiang Kai-shek, Madame

Curie, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, John L. Lewis, Theodore Roosevelt, Bing Crosby, and others.

Super-Highways

The states of New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ohio are planning to build, or are already building, the most up-to-date super-highways. When they are completed, the three roads will connect with each other and extend from the George Washington Bridge (the span across the Hudson River) in New York City to Toledo, Ohio. Motorists will be able to drive the entire 800-mile distance without encountering traffic lights or major intersections, and without having to pass through towns or villages.

Both the New Jersey and Pennsylvania highways are now under construction and will probably be completed in 1953. The present Pennsylvania Turnpike will form a portion of the route. Work on the road in Ohio is expected to begin in the near future and to be completed in 1955.

Eventually, the entire United States is expected to be covered by super-highways. The New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ohio roads are to become part of a system that will stretch from New York to California.

Education for Veterans

Congress is considering a proposal of President Truman's that it revise the so-called GI Bill of Rights, under which World War II veterans receive education and training at the government's expense. According to Mr. Truman, many unprincipled persons are taking advantage of the program to the tune of millions of dollars a year.

As an example, the President cited the establishment of many fly-by-night schools, whose sole purpose is to receive the money which the govern-

ment pays for the veterans' tuition and other fees. Most of such schools provide inadequate training to their students and do not meet the requirements expected of a regular educational institution.

Since 1944, when the GI Bill was adopted, some 6½ million ex-servicemen and women have received education or training under the program. A large number have gone to high school or college. Others have attended trade or vocational school. Still others have taken "on-the-job" training while working in factories or on farms.

A total of nine billion dollars has already been spent under the GI Bill. Several billion more is expected to be spent before the program ends in 1956.

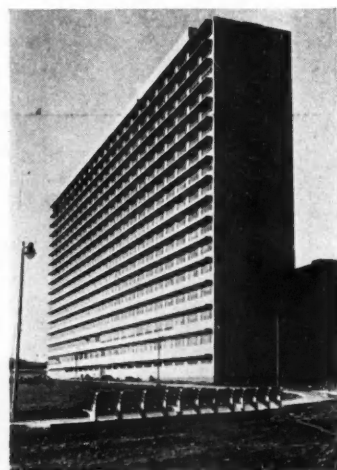
Statehood for Hawaii?

The people of Hawaii are getting ready for a special election to be held March 21. The purpose of the election is to choose delegates to a convention that will draw up a state constitution, even though Hawaii has not yet been granted statehood. The convention will meet April 4 and continue its work for two months.

Under the law, Hawaii is not required to produce a constitution until it has been asked to do so by Congress. Leaders in the territory, however, point out that they are not prohibited from drawing up such a document. By writing a constitution this spring, they think that they may be saving valuable time. In the event Congress, in the near future, decides to make Hawaii a state, a constitution will already be available for the lawmakers' consideration and possible approval.

Several days ago, THE AMERICAN OBSERVER received a letter on the issue of statehood for Hawaii from Yuriko Kohara, a member of the Forum Committee of McKinley High School in Honolulu. Yuriko says that the junior class of her school has been writing to students on the mainland and asking them what they think about making Hawaii a state. According to Yuriko, a majority say they favor such a step.

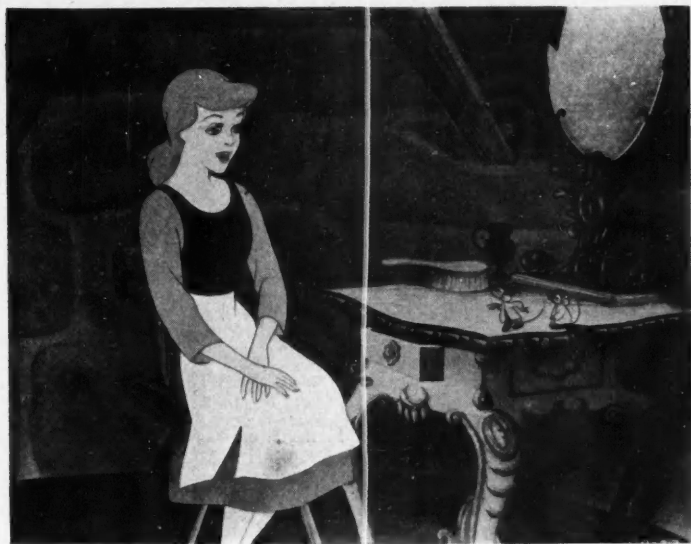
"At the present time," Yuriko remarks, "all of us in Hawaii are watching Congress and especially the House



NEW HOSPITAL for veterans at Fort Hamilton, New York. Doctors and patients have now moved into a part of this modern structure. Additional wings are to be occupied, one by one, as fast as they are finished.



FISHING IS WORK, not play, for this elderly Eskimo woman and for others of her community at Hooper Bay, Alaska. The Eskimos especially like needlefish. About two inches long, somewhat like sardines, they are eaten raw.



WALT DISNEY presents the story of Cinderella in Technicolor

of Representatives, where we hope to see a bill granting statehood to Hawaii introduced soon."

Yuriko adds that the juniors of McKinley High "would welcome the opinions of other high school students on the question of statehood." They may write to Yuriko Kohara at McKinley High School, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Disappearing Pandas

China's giant pandas may soon become extinct. Farmers, moving deeper into the wild, mountainous regions of China, are clearing out the bamboo trees which are the animals' favorite food. Hunters and trappers have killed great numbers of the animals.

The few pandas which have been brought to the United States are favorite zoo attractions. Though their bodies are white, they have black ears, black ovals around their eyes, and their legs and shoulders are black. Their unusual appearance has caused manufacturers to make toy pandas which are popular with small youngsters.

Angus Ward

Angus Ward, former U. S. consul general in Mukden, China, has been telling American audiences about his experiences with the Chinese Communists. Ward's imprisonment by the Communists on "trumped-up" charges last fall caused widespread indignation and resulted in a U. S. appeal to 30 nations to use their influence to bring about his release. He was finally allowed to leave China in December.

Those who have heard Mr. Ward speak since his return have been impressed with the impartial way in which he tells of his experiences. Despite the fact that he was subjected to humiliating treatment, he recounts his story without emotion and with a scrupulous regard for what he considers to be the facts.

When the Chinese Communist armies first took Mukden, Mr. Ward says frankly that he was favorably impressed by the good discipline of their soldiers. He was hopeful that it might be possible to get along with the new ruling group.

He found, however, that initial appearances had been deceiving, for the

familiar signs of a police state soon began to appear. Today life in Communist China, thinks Mr. Ward, is very much like life in the Soviet Union with the ruling group steadily tightening its control over the lives of the people.

Mr. Ward has been a career officer in the foreign service for many years. He has taken care of the commercial interests of U. S. citizens in several Chinese cities and spent eight years in the Soviet Union, representing us at Moscow and later at Vladivostok. Thus, he is well qualified to compare the situation now existing in China with that in Russia.

Doctor Shortage

The Federal Security Agency reports that there is a great need for physicians in virtually every section of the country, with the possible exception of the New England and Middle Atlantic states. According to the FSA, there are now about 60,000 more

physicians than there were in 1909, when 140,000 took care of the nation's medical needs. However, the total number of persons in the United States has increased more rapidly than the number of doctors, with the result that there are, today, fewer physicians in relation to population than there were 41 years ago.

Under a bill now being considered by Congress, the federal government would provide financial aid to medical schools in order to increase the number of students who receive medical training each year. The government would also help out schools of dentistry, nursing and public health. There is a shortage of personnel in these fields also.

Disney Magic

Walt Disney has once again produced a picture that will be popular with people of all ages; namely, "Cinderella." As in most of Disney's full-length films, the characters of "Cinderella" are all animated cartoons, but how believable they are! First, there is Cinderella herself. Then, there are the step-mother and two step-sisters. The Prince is also convincing, though he does not play as big a part in the story as do the other "human beings" who appear.

As is his custom in almost all his movies, Disney has created for "Cinderella" a number of delightful animals. Gus and Jaq are tiny but heroic mice who help Cinderella in her fight against her stepmother and step-sisters. Lucifer is a big house cat who tries to thwart Gus and Jaq in whatever they are doing but who is much too fat to be an effective foe of the agile mice.

The picture was filmed in Technicolor and contains many unusually beautiful scenes. The songs in the movie all have pleasant and catchy tunes and some should prove highly popular. One of them, "Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo," is already a hit.

—By DAVID BEILES.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

Wife: "How many fish did you catch Saturday, dear?"
Husband: "Six, all beauties."
Wife: "I thought so. That market has made a mistake again and charged us for eight."

Teacher: "How old is your father?"
Student: "38."
Teacher: "I'll have to give you some homework more suited to his age."

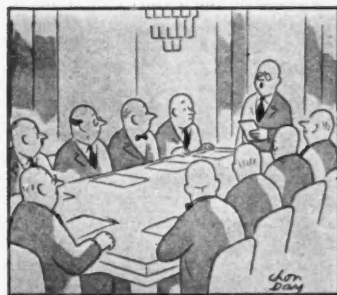
Professor: "I've mastered every tongue but one."
Friend: "What's that?"
Professor: "My mother-in-law's."

A boy who applied for a job in a movie theatre was rushed into uniform and put to work. He was back an hour or so later and stated that he was quitting the job.
"What's the matter, son? Aren't the hours and pay good enough for you?" asked the manager.
"Sure," the boy replied, "but I've seen the picture."

He: "I've an idea."
She: "Be kind to it. It's in a strange place."

"My uncle's in the hospital."
"What's the matter with him?"
"He walked down a ladder a few minutes after they had taken it away."

"I want some grapes for a sick friend of mine. Do you know if these have been sprayed with poison?"
"No—you'll have to get that at the drug store."



"There was a slight clerical error in our annual report. Instead of making three million dollars this past year, we lost three million."

Readers Say—

I hope that Congress will adopt all the recommendations of the Hoover Commission. Many government agencies and departments are inefficient and even corrupt. Others are run by officials who devote more time to promoting their own interests than to advancing those of the public.

JOHN C. BAER,
Falls Church, Virginia

I disagree with those who say that all young people are reckless drivers and should not be allowed behind the steering wheel until they are in their 20's. Some teen-agers, it is true, deserve to be kept off the road, but most of them obey the traffic laws. As a matter of fact, a large percentage of all automobile accidents are not caused by teen-agers at all.

PAULINE REICHERT,
West Lawn, Pennsylvania

In my opinion compulsory high school driving courses will not eliminate automobile accidents involving teen-agers. You can teach some young people all about driving and the need for safety, yet when they get into a car, they will forget all they have learned.

ROBERT PETERS,
Missoula, Montana



I think that colleges and universities should be allowed to give their outstanding athletes more than merely free tuition. After all, such sports as football and basketball are big business now and schools can afford to give their players greater assistance.

RITA LOPER,
Antigo, Wisconsin

It seems to me that Russia and the United States are like two opponents playing checkers. We now have the advantage over the Russians, but, if we let them get one more "king"—that is, if we let them make the hydrogen bomb before we make one—they will be able to "jump" us and, possibly, defeat us. On the other hand, if we keep the advantage we now have, we are in a position to win ourselves.

MARY ELIZABETH ALTHOEN,
Biwabik, Minnesota

I believe that the FBI should be allowed to tap the wires of all suspected criminals and spies. After all, FBI officials are responsible people. They would not engage in wire-tapping unless it was absolutely necessary for the protection of the country.

As for the question of violating the Fourth Amendment, I believe that the Constitution must contain some provision that empowers the government to protect the nation from potential enemies. The Founding Fathers did not create a body of laws that would permit the country to be undermined or overthrown.

PEGGY HEIN,
Catonsville, Maryland

(Correspondence from our readers or foreign students may be addressed to Letter Column, THE AMERICAN OBSERVER, 1733 K Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.)

Amendment to Change Electoral System Studied

(Concluded from page 1)

York, with 45 representatives and 2 senators, can have 47 electors.

For the nation as a whole, there are 435 members of the House of Representatives and 96 Senators—a total of 531. Thus, for recent elections, there have been 531 members in the "electoral college."

When a voter goes to the polls in a Presidential election, he does not vote directly for a Presidential candidate. Instead, he votes for a group of electors—as many as his state is entitled to have. Practically never does he choose electors from more than one party. In a great many states he could not do so even if he wanted to. He selects all Democrats, or all Republicans, or all the electors of a smaller party. Then when the count is made, a state's entire electoral vote goes to one Presidential candidate—the one whose party gets the largest popular vote in that state. (Only under very unusual circumstances can the electoral vote be split.)

For example, take Massachusetts and New Jersey in the election of November 1948. A majority of the voters in New Jersey cast their ballots for the Republicans, so that state's 16 Republican electors were declared the victors. They all cast their votes for Thomas Dewey and his running-mate, Earl Warren. Massachusetts also is entitled to 16 electors. Since a majority of her voters favored the Democrats in 1948, all 16 of the Massachusetts electoral votes went to President Harry Truman and to Alben Barkley.

Vote in December

The electors who are chosen in November do their voting the following month. Meeting in their state capitals, they cast ballots for President and Vice President. These votes are sent to the presiding officer of the U. S. Senate. Early in January he counts the votes in the presence of the two houses of Congress and announces the results. The candidates who receive at least 266 electoral votes (more than half of the 531 total) win the Presidency and the Vice Presidency.

Thus, the Chief Executive is not really chosen until January. Unless a very unusual situation develops, however, the nation learns the name of the winner shortly after the November balloting is finished. The victorious party in each state is known. By adding up the electoral votes, state by state, the public can get the same total that will be officially announced by Congress in January.

The electors have simply become parts of a counting device. Each prospective elector is required to make his position known in advance. Since the early days of our nation's history, each has been pledged to support a particular set of candidates.

Such is the voting system as it is now practiced in this country. The people choose a President through the electoral college. And regardless of how evenly divided the voters in a state may be, that state's entire electoral vote generally must go to a single candidate.

In this system there is a defect which nearly everyone agrees is unfortunate. It is possible, and has actually occurred on three occasions, that a Presidential candidate who receives the most popular votes through-

out the country does not receive the most electoral votes and therefore loses the election.

A good example of how this can happen was furnished by the election of 1888. In that voting, the Republican Party won in Indiana by a margin of slightly over 2,000. But this small margin gave the state's electoral votes (15 at that time) to the Republican candidate, Benjamin Harrison. In Texas, the Democratic Party piled up a majority of 147,000, so its candidate, Grover Cleveland, received the state's 13 electoral votes.

It is to be seen, therefore, that Cleveland received 145,000 more popular votes in these two states than Harrison did, but Harrison received two more electoral votes than Cleveland. This same sort of thing happened in a number of states. Harrison won a majority of the nation's electoral votes and became President, although he had

party B. In such a case, party A would be given 6 electoral votes, and party B would receive 2.

The electoral college, as a group of men and women, would be abolished under the Lodge plan. Each state would still have as many electoral votes as it has senators and representatives, but no specific individuals would be named to cast these votes.

Advocates of the Lodge measure maintain that this proposed amendment would be a decided improvement over our existing Presidential election system. "It would do away," they say, "with the 'unfair' arrangement under which a state gives its entire electoral support to the candidate who wins—perhaps by a small margin—the largest number of that state's popular votes."

"Moreover," they continue, "it would force the political parties to take interest in certain areas they now neg-

lect in every section of the nation. The tendency to neglect states that are now 'safe' for one party or the other will disappear. Within such states, political campaigns will become more interesting. Larger numbers of people will participate in the elections."

Opponents of the Lodge Amendment reply that there would be danger in breaking up a state's electoral vote. "Such a process," they contend, "would enable small minority parties to obtain electoral votes; and it would therefore encourage the development of such groups. It might cause the United States to drift toward a situation like that of France, in which the political parties are so small and numerous that a stable government cannot be set up."

Members of some minority, labor, and farm groups, nevertheless, oppose the Lodge Amendment. They point out that the two major parties are in close competition in a number of states during a Presidential election. As it is now, both parties, knowing that if they lose a close state they will lose all its electoral votes, promise certain groups better conditions in return for their support. If the parties know, however, that they can win a good share of the electoral votes in closely contested states even though they don't win a majority, they won't work so hard to improve conditions of small groups that are in need of better standards of living.

Supporters of the Lodge Amendment claim that this last argument recommends their measure instead of discrediting it. They contend that parties, under the present system, work harder to please special groups than they do to help the population as a whole.

Another Proposal

These are among the differing viewpoints on the proposed change in our way of counting Presidential election votes. This change, however, is not the only one that would be made by the Lodge Amendment. There would also be a new method of deciding who wins if the contest is three-cornered and nobody gets a clear majority of the electoral vote.

Under today's rules, a candidate must get more than half of the electoral votes in order to win the Presidency or Vice Presidency. In case no one receives such a majority, the President is chosen by the House of Representatives (with each state's delegation having only one vote), and the Senate has the power to select the Vice President.

If the new amendment is adopted, the person who gets the most electoral votes for each office will win—provided that he receives at least 40 per cent of them. In case there are three or more prominent candidates, and nobody receives 40 per cent of the electoral ballots, then Congress—sitting as one group—is to choose the President and Vice President from the two leading contenders for each office. For this purpose, each senator and representative will have one vote.

The question of making changes in our Presidential election system has attracted interest for a long time. It deserves careful examination, dealing as it does with the most powerful official in our country.



TIME FOR A CHANGE from the bicycle to the airplane age? One point of view on the Lodge Amendment to change our Presidential election machinery.

only a minority of the popular vote.

It is largely in an effort to reduce the chance of naming a "minority President" that the proposed Constitutional amendment—the one already approved by the Senate—has been drawn up. This measure is sometimes called the "Lodge Amendment" because Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., of Massachusetts, has taken a leading part in promoting it.

If the Lodge Amendment goes into effect, a state will no longer give all its electoral votes to a single candidate. Instead, the electoral votes will be divided among the various parties in the same proportions as are the popular ballots. Take the case of Kansas, which has 8 electoral votes. Suppose that, during a Presidential election, 75 per cent of the state's voters supported party A, and 25 per cent supported

lect. The nation has a number of states that practically always go Democratic by a large majority, and others that are definitely in the Republican column. Time after time, a state of this kind gives all its electoral votes to the same political party. Neither party sees any use in putting up a big, expensive fight for a state that is already 'in the bag'—for either the Republicans or the Democrats. Both major parties concentrate their vote-getting efforts on 'doubtful' states.

"If the Lodge Amendment goes into effect, however, each major party will be able to win some electoral votes in every state. Democrats may be able to pick up a few such votes in strongly Republican Maine and Vermont, while Republicans could do the same in the Democratic South. Each party will have to seek popular sup-

Science News

A new machine for cutting dense underbrush has been developed. Named the "bushwacker," because it whacks away at undesirable bushes and small trees, the machine is able to clear between four and six acres of ground in a day's time.

The "bushwacker" resembles a tractor, but it has a heavy steel cross-bar on the front to bend the brush down. Then sharp flails strike the trees and underbrush, shredding them into small bits.

The inventors say that the machine clears land faster and at less expense than does the bulldozer plus human labor.

★ ★ ★

The American bald eagle is becoming extinct, even in Alaska where it is now found in greatest numbers. The eagle—pictured on the back of our dollar bills—was once numerous in every state. Now, however, it is found mainly in Alaska and the Gulf States, and in the latter only in small numbers.

Laws protecting the bird are in effect in all 48 states, and Congress is considering a measure to protect them in Alaska.

★ ★ ★

Three medical scientists at a hospital in Texas have found that a new compound made from combining sulfa drugs with streptomycin produces a remarkable medicine. The compound seems to destroy dangerous bacteria, so that cuts and wounds heal without any signs of infection.

★ ★ ★

A ranger in the Yellowstone National Park states that Old Faithful, the Park's famous geyser, was just as faithful during 1949 as it has been in other years. It erupted 1,174 times last year, or an average of once every 62.3 minutes. Another geyser—the Giant—which has not spouted since 1944, erupted twice last year, probably starting a new cycle.

★ ★ ★

The U. S. Observatory is to have a new home. The institution will be moved from its present location in the nation's capital to Charlottesville, Virginia, where there will be few electrical disturbances.

The Observatory is the nation's official timekeeper, the "master clock" by which all our timepieces are set.

—By HAZEL L. ELDRIDGE.



QUILTED, OF RUBBERIZED NYLON, this suit was made by the British Navy to help sailors who escape from damaged submarines. It has a breathing apparatus and a shoulder lamp which burns for 30 hours. Weight is only 6 pounds.



KING FEISAL SQUARE in Baghdad, the capital of Iraq

An Appeal from Iraq

Young Student Asks Americans To Look Beyond U. S. Borders And Increase Their Knowledge of Other Countries

MOST of us, on a visit to an American farm, are likely to expect fried chicken as the main dish for dinner. But, in the Near Eastern country of Iraq, the farmer is almost certain to serve lamb to his city guests. Seasoned with spices, the lamb is roasted over an open fire, barbecue style.

Judging by the description given us by Fred Huwaidi, a student from Iraq, the lamb is very tasty, a treat that can compete with our fried chicken. Fred has been visiting this country for the past two months with 24 other students from countries in the Middle East and Southeast Asia. He told us



F. Y. HERALD TRIBUNE
Huwaidi

about the lamb, while in Washington as a guest of THE AMERICAN OBSERVER.

"Food in Iraq is, as a rule, very much like yours, except that we use stronger seasoning," Fred said. "We do have one very special, very popular meal, however, that is our own. We call it the 'master meal.' It's made of lamb, and you may eat it whenever you visit our farms.

"A whole lamb is used. As stuffing, we put in rice, nuts, and seasoning—very much as you stuff a chicken or turkey for roasting. Then the lamb is suspended, on a long, iron spit, between two posts. It is turned slowly over an open fire until done.

"Usually the most important guest is asked to cut the meat, as a special honor. The farmers serve this meal whenever they have guests."

Fred smiled, and added: "And they have guests almost every day."

As to our schools, Fred felt that they were better equipped than in Iraq, and that this is made possible by our great wealth. But he had some doubts about the comparative value of our knowledge.

"Our students in Iraq are much better informed on their own national problems than you are on American issues," Fred said. "And I have some doubts about your interest in foreign affairs."

"I have found everything so wonder-

ful in the United States, but I would like to make this appeal to all American students: Look at all the world, more than you are looking now.

"Look at what is outside your own country. Think and study about these countries, so you will be able to do something about world problems when, in the future, you lead your nation."

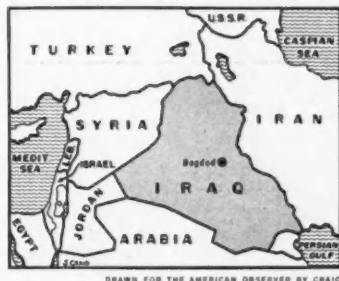
Iraq, the Nation

Iraq's 116,600 square miles, an area a bit larger than Arizona, are the home of, nearly 5, million people—most of them Moslems. Baghdad, the capital, is Iraq's largest city.

There are barely 100 factories in the country. These manufacture mostly goods for home use—brick, tile, clothing, soap, and other such items. Agriculture is the main means of livelihood. The farmers grow about 80 per cent of the world's supply of dates. Wheat, rice, tobacco, and cotton are other crops. Cattle, camels, goats, and sheep are raised.

This land, known in early times as Mesopotamia, is a mixture of mountains, desert, and rich river valley. It was under the rule of Turkey from 1638 to World War I. After that war it was occupied by Britain.

A revolution in 1920 led to self-rule for Iraq, with a king as ruler, and with a two-house parliament. Fourteen-year-old Feisal II is king now. Be-



DRAWN FOR THE AMERICAN OBSERVER BY CRAIG

cause of his youth, an uncle acts for him in administering state affairs. Parliament and the monarchy cooperate in governing the nation.

Great Britain maintains air bases in Iraq and furnishes advisers to the government. British, American, French, and Dutch interests jointly operate Iraq's oil wells. Iraq, however, retains ownership of the wells.

Straight Thinking

By Clay Coss

HOW can one judge a newspaper and tell whether it is providing an accurate, balanced picture of the happenings of the day? The following test will help you to determine the merits of your newspaper:

Does it support one political party on all questions? If it does, it is not independent. It is a mere party organ, because no editor who is intelligent and free to express his opinions is going to agree with any one party on all points.

Does the paper consistently support one economic group as opposed to the others? For example, is it always pro-business or pro-labor or pro-agriculture? If so, it is one-sided and unbalanced.

In case of controversial questions, does the paper give space to differing viewpoints? If, for instance, the editorials express one opinion, are there columnists who voice contrary ideas? The best and most valuable papers furnish that kind of service.

Does your paper seem to be thoughtful and moderate, giving opponents fair consideration, or is it emotional and bitter toward them?

Above all, watch for this point: Does the paper express editorial views in news articles? If it does, beware! A news story should provide facts, not opinions, concerning all sides of a subject. Give careful attention to seeing whether your paper reports the news impartially.

If your paper is one-sided, read others and also magazines in order to get a variety of viewpoints. In addition, listen to several radio commentators. Judge them the same way you would a newspaper.



Your Vocabulary

Italicized words below appeared recently in the Survey. Match each with the following word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly the same. Correct answers are given on page 8, column 4.

1. They *instigate* (in-'sti-gät) violence. (a) investigate or probe (b) try to prevent (c) predict or foresee (d) provoke or stir up.
2. An *intolerable* (in-töl'er-ah-bl) situation (a) is highly favorable (b) is likely to continue (c) cannot be endured (d) is new and unexpected.
3. A *fortnight* (fort-'night) is a period of (a) four days (b) two weeks (c) six weeks (d) two months.
4. If a government *coerces* (kō-'urs'-ez) someone, it (a) aids him (b) deceives him (c) forces him to obey (d) honors him.
5. He was *remunerated* (rē-mū'nēr-ät-ed). (a) paid (b) sent back to his own country (c) praised (d) removed from office.
6. Did they *perpetrate* (per-'pē-trät) the crime? (a) try to prevent (b) discuss (c) hear about (d) commit.

Careers for Tomorrow - - In Filling Stations

FILLING stations offer numerous job openings to young men, and the work has several advantages. It requires little preliminary training. Wages are adequate and may be quite high if a person is resourceful. The work itself provides some avenues for promotion, and a person may find that his experience will lead him to opportunities in related fields.

To succeed as a filling station attendant a young man must have mechanical ability. He need not be a trained mechanic, but he should be able to pick up the basic mechanical jobs he must do. The attendant should be fast at carrying out his work, and he should have a pleasant, friendly personality. Sales ability is another requirement for success in this field.

The duties of a filling station attendant are varied. They include the general servicing of cars—supplying them with gasoline, oil, water, and air; changing tires; making minor adjustments of motors. The attendant usually sells auto supplies such as spark plugs, light bulbs, tires, and batteries. He must also do numerous small jobs such as washing windshields and giving directions to drivers who ask for them. These last tasks bring no immediate return in money, but they are important in building good will for a filling station.

Most attendants learn their duties while on the job. They start as junior employees and work with experienced men. After a few months they are able to do most of the tasks required of them. Some of the major oil companies conduct brief training courses for experienced attendants to prepare

them for jobs as managers and operators of stations.

A young man may advance in this field in one of a number of ways: If he is employed in a large station he may become assistant manager, and then manager. Or he may eventually open his own filling station.

Being the manager of a station, or owning one, requires business ability in addition to the mechanical aptitudes



TESTING BATTERIES is part of the job of a filling station employee

mentioned above. The manager or owner must order supplies and he must watch his stock to see that he has goods which will sell. In addition, he must keep necessary records and accounts. He also hires the minor employees, if there are any, and supervises them.

Wages for filling station attendants depend in large measure upon an individual's ability and upon the locality

in which he works. Generally speaking, a beginner in the field will earn about \$25 a week. Eventually he may work up to a salary of about \$40 a week. In the larger cities experienced attendants may earn as much as \$60 or \$65 a week.

Managers may start at about \$175 or \$200 a month and their top salaries may be about \$350 a month. In addition, the managers usually receive commissions based on the volume of business the stations do. The earnings of independent owners depend entirely on the success of the station.

A young man who is thinking of opening a station for himself should look into the matter carefully before making his final decision. Questions such as location, initial investment, and competition from other stations should all be investigated for they have an important bearing on success.

Advantages of work as a filling station attendant have already been discussed. There are also, of course, disadvantages. Since the duties to be performed are fairly simple, some young men may find that the work does not challenge them. While attendants usually have a 40 to 48 hour week, an owner may find that he has to spend most of his time at his station. As a further disadvantage one must go outside in the worst of weather—winter and summer—to serve his customers.

A pamphlet discussing this field, "Establishing and Operating a Service Station" by Charles H. Sevin, is available for 40 cents from the Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.—By CARRINGTON SHIELDS.

Study Guide

Electoral Amendment

1. Discuss briefly the way in which the President of the United States is elected.
2. How is it possible for a President to be elected even though he receives only a minority of the popular votes cast throughout the nation?
3. How does the Lodge Amendment seek to change the electoral system?
4. Give one of the main arguments against the amendment.
5. What is the chief point made by persons who favor it?
6. If no candidate gets more than half the electoral votes in a Presidential election, how is the President chosen under present rules?
7. How would he be chosen under the proposed amendment?

Discussion

1. On the basis of your present information, are you in favor of the Lodge Amendment, or do you oppose it? Give reasons for your position.
2. If you oppose it, what change, if any, do you believe might be made in our present method of electing a President? Explain your proposal.

Atomic Control

1. Why hasn't the United Nations been able to put into effect a plan for international control of atomic power?
2. What part did Bernard Baruch play in the attempt to set up a control plan?
3. Describe the plan advanced by Mr. Baruch.
4. What plan did the Russians put forth for controlling the atom?
5. How did the plans differ on the question of inspection power?
6. Tell one other big difference between the U. S. and Russian proposals.
7. Name two developments in the last six months that have brought about increased demands for the international control of atomic power.
8. Why do President Truman and other high officials believe that we should not compromise on the principles of the Baruch plan at this time?

Discussion

1. Can you suggest any way in which the deadlock over international control of atomic energy might be overcome? Explain.
2. Do you think our government is right in continuing to support the Baruch plan for the international control of atomic energy? Give your reasons.

Miscellaneous

1. Give two provisions of the treaty recently signed by Russia and Communist China.
2. Why do some observers think that the treaty contains a number of secret clauses?
3. When was Manchuria seized by the Japanese?
4. Why are the people of Hawaii holding a constitutional convention this April, even though they have not yet been granted statehood?
5. How many veterans have received education or training under the GI Bill of Rights?
6. What does Angus Ward think of Communist China?
7. Describe briefly some attempts made in the past to secure lasting world peace.

Answers to Your Vocabulary

1. (d) provoke or stir up; 2. (c) cannot be endured; 3. (b) two weeks; 4. (c) forces him to obey; 5. (a) paid; 6. (d) commit.

Elizabeth Kenny—the famous Australian nurse—has received an unusual privilege from the United States government. From now on, she will be free to visit or leave this country without a passport or immigration papers. Sister Kenny is famous throughout the world for her method of treating infantile paralysis victims.

Historical Backgrounds - - Seeking Peace

THE goal of peace for the world has been the dream of mankind throughout history. Hundreds of plans have been drawn up to make it easier for nations to avoid conflict. A few have been tried, have failed, and wars have followed. But because war is so terrible, we still are trying to find a way for the world to live without fighting.

Alexander the Great was one who tried to establish peace in ancient times, by forcing nations to accept him as their ruler. The Romans brought most of Europe, Africa, and the Near East into their vast empire. But the Roman Empire eventually fell apart and the civilized world divided into many political units. Charlemagne, in the ninth century, and Napoleon in the eighteenth and nineteenth, tried and failed to unite Europe.

These efforts to build a unified world came to ruin largely because they were based on force. Military conquest aroused the hostility of subject peoples whose lives and freedom were seriously affected. Instead of accepting rule by the conquerors, people rose up against them whenever they had the chance.

World War I caused so much loss of life and destruction that people everywhere were eager for a plan that could assure peace. They welcomed enthusiastically the ideas of our wartime President, Woodrow Wilson, for a voluntary association of nations to guarantee independence for all, and to compel the settlement of all disputes by arbitration and not by fighting.

The League of Nations was set up in Geneva, Switzerland, as a result of Mr. Wilson's planning. The League was to be the great world government to preserve peace. The United States Senate refused to permit American membership in the League, however, and this was a sharp blow to its effectiveness.

The powerful nations that did join the League—Great Britain, France, Italy, and Japan—did not give it wholehearted support. Thus the League never had the necessary strength to keep Japan, Germany, and Italy from setting out to conquer other lands—and lay the groundwork for World War II.

Nations quickly saw the weaknesses



FRANK B. KELLOGG, our Secretary of State in 1928. He sponsored a world pact to outlaw war.

of the League, and felt that it was not enough to guarantee their safety. So, in 1925, the Pact of Locarno was signed by France, Germany, Britain, Italy, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Belgium. Frontier guarantees and pledges of mutual support against aggression were included in the pact.

In 1928, the French statesman, Aristide Briand, and Frank Kellogg, then our Secretary of State, sponsored a pact to outlaw war. This declaration proclaimed war to be illegal, and it was hailed as a new, valuable guarantee of peace.

Disarmament was tried, too, in the years between the two world wars. It was felt that nations would be less likely to fight if they reduced their fighting power. At a conference in Washington in 1922, the United States, Britain, France, Italy, and Japan concluded a treaty limiting naval power. The League of Nations sponsored a series of disarmament conferences, from 1925 to 1934, after which time they broke down because of Adolf Hitler's refusal to cooperate.

As we know, all these efforts to keep peace failed and World War II came about. After that war, at San Francisco in 1945, the United Nations was organized—as a successor to the League. The UN is having difficulty, but it remains one hope of peace. Keeping it going and getting agreement on atomic control are, today, our great problems in working for an end of war—the dream that is so hard to make a reality.